

Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

This is a very bad rule. Private citizens have had the right to make copies of programs on broadcast tv for their personal use for years. We tape Dan Rather every night. We should not be burdened with this technology.

Would the digital flag interfere with consumers ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks connecting digital set top boxes, digital recorders, digital servers and digital display devices? The media companies ALWAYS say these devices won't interfere with use across digital networks in the home. I don't buy it!

Would the broadcast flag requirement limit consumers ability to use their existing electronic equipment (equipment not built to look for the flag) or make it difficult to use older components with new equipment that is compliant with the broadcast flag standard?

I believe the broadcast flag will limit my ability to use existing components. There are already dvd recorders. These will become obsolete.

Would a broadcast flag requirement limit the development of future equipment providing consumers with new options?

I believe it will hurt the development of future devices. I liken it to what Microsoft has tried to do with it's proprietary audio format which makes second generation copies impossible.

What will be the cost impact, if any, that a broadcast flag requirement would have on consumer electronics equipment?

It will add cost to the devices and provide inconvenience or worse for the consumer. Consumers will be unable to make copies of programming for their own personal use.

Other Comments:

Please act in the interest of the consumer and nip this thing in the bud. It's a bad idea which has bad policy as its wellspring. It is self-serving by the media conglomerates. And nothing has been shown so far that they have the potential to be hurt in any way if the broadcast flag idea is dropped.

It might also interest the FCC to know I am a ham radio operator. My callsign is K8IW. Please use the same wisdom you've shown with our regulations when you consider this dumb idea. Thanks for listening.

Mike Anderson
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